Name: Heidi

Major: Special Education and Early Education

* Why did you choose Bloomsburg University?

Because she got free tuition

* What challenges do you face with your disability?

In large group situation she has a hard time understanding what is going on. It hard to hear what people are saying.

* Do you relate better to the Deaf Community or the Hearing Community?

Hearing community

* How do people who are able to hear react to when they find out you’re deaf?

It depends. Since she has cochlear implants and functions like a hearing person, they do not always believe that she is deaf. Most of the time after they realize that she is truly deaf, they think it’s cool.

* Do you feel uncomfortable in crowded places?

Above

* What accommodations here at Bloomsburg because do you get for your disability?

She has a flashing door bell, flashing smoke alarm and an interpreter.

* Do you find making friends difficult?

Sometimes, they mumble and its hard to have conversations with them.

* Do you think/ worry people will treat you differently?

Sometimes, because she wants people to get to know her first.

Name: Claudia

Major: Her major is communication studies with a concentration in interpersonal. She picked that major because she really like working with people and she want to help make a difference by working with people.

* Why did you choose Bloomsburg University?

She wanted to have hearing and deaf friends without having the feeling of the hearing and deaf kids being separated. She want to have the best of both worlds

* What challenges do you face with your disability?

A lot of people do not think that she is deaf because the way she speaks. So she always remind them that she is deaf but if someone speaks clearly she can understand them. She has cochlear implants and devices that help her hear. Without them she is completely deaf

* Do you relate better to the Deaf Community or the Hearing Community?

To be honest, she feels that she relates better to the hearing community because she’s had bad experiences where most deaf people didn't accept her for who she was and didn't consider her deaf because she could speak. Whereas the hearing community were a lot more acceptable and interested and friendly.

* How do people who are able to hear react to when they find out you’re deaf?

At first, they're shocked. Then they're interested in how she developed her speech skills and admire her ability to speak really well

* Do you feel uncomfortable in crowded places?

No

* What accommodations here at Bloomsburg because do you get for your disability?

Interpreters, note takers, extended test time, and have her professors post assignments that are written instead of verbally and flashing fire alarm and doorbell

* Do you find making friends difficult?

She is shy at first then she open up once she get to know the person

* Do you think/ worry people will treat you differently?

Always because she grew up with people judging her and now she always want to make a good impression, she doesn’t want to be viewed as awkward deaf person.

My topic for the Clue project is about how people who are deaf feel in their community. For my interviews, I interviewed two girls at Bloomsburg who happen to be deaf. While interviewing them I saw that they both worry about people treating them differently for being deaf. Also I saw that they hesitate about telling others of their deafness. I feel that’s how we all feel about things that make us different from others. This information suggests that these girls just want to be treated as anyone else, without being called out and treated like aliens.